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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

April 2, 2014

Sarah M. Fields  
Program Director, Uranium Watch  
76 South Main Street, No. 7  
P.O. Box 344  
Moab, Utah 84532

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO COMMENTS, COLORADO PLATEAU PARTNERS LLC,  
SAGE MINE, S/037/0058, SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

Dear Ms. Fields:

I write in response to your letter dated February 21, 2014. First, thank you for your interest in the Division and our mining program.

The Sage Mine (S/037/0058), as you are aware, has had periods of minimal or no production. Uranium prices have been unpredictably volatile, which has caused many uranium mines to suspend full operations for long stretches.

After reviewing our records and discussing the matter with our staff, the Division maintains that the Sage Mine should not be required to reclaim immediately. During the last couple of decades, the Division has conducted periodic inspections of the facilities and discussed with the operators about how they maintained the mine. Although the Sage Mine has not been in full production for a time, this does not necessarily mean that it has ceased mining operations, their exploration efforts, or maintaining a safe, secure, and viable mine. Plus, over the last few years, the current operator has made significant investments in exploring for potential deposits within the operator's claim area.

Importantly, the Division holds and maintains a bond to ensure the mine is fully reclaimed. I feel that an investigation is unwarranted at this time.

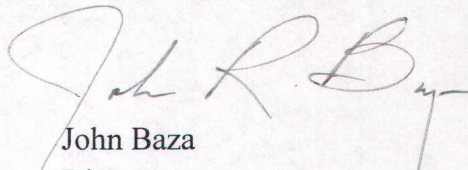


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The Division is encouraged to hear the mine is submitting a Plan of Operation with the Bureau of Land Management. The Division and the Bureau cooperate when regulating mines on federal lands, and, as you are aware, the Bureau has the authority to enforce the federal statutes and regulations.

Again, thank you for the voicing your concerns. Such participation helps the Division better serve the people of Utah.

Sincerely,



John Baza  
Director

JRB:dc:er

cc: Ted McDougall, Monticello BLM ([tmcdouga@blm.gov](mailto:tmcdouga@blm.gov))  
Frank Filas, Colorado Plateau Partners ([ffilas@energyfuels.com](mailto:ffilas@energyfuels.com))  
Paul Baker, DOGM

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